



# St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Parish



Rev. Nicholas Glisson, Pastor. The Most Reverend Michael Barber, SJ, Bishop – Diocese of Oakland

## WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5:30 pm  
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 am

## DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Tues.– Thurs. + Saturday 8:30 am  
Monday/Wednesday/Friday 5:30 pm

## LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Monday – Saturday 8:00 am  
Mon./Wed./Friday 5:10 pm

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:00 to 5:00 pm  
(and by appointment)

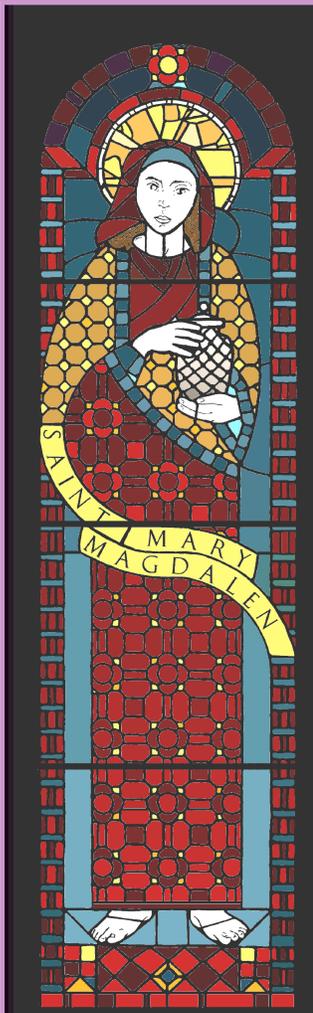
## OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday  
9:00 am – Noon  
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm  
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WEBSITE



marymagdalen.org



X David Lance Goines, 2002

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CFCS Funeral Services 510-223-2165

*“Together we share our Faith in Jesus Christ.*

*We live the Gospel, and we care for others.”*

**BAPTISM:** Preparation classes take place on the first Monday of the month. Please call the parish office for more information.

**CONFIRMATION:** Classes run from September through May; contact the office for more information.

**MARRIAGE:** Please contact the pastor at least six months prior to the wedding.

**ANointing OF THE SICK:** The Sacrament is offered at every 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Mass, and by appointment.

# First Sunday of Advent, Year A ~ November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025

## Weekly Collections through November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

Sunday	Actual	Budget	Difference
11/23/2025	\$13,180.15	\$10,000.00	\$3,180.15
Year-to-Date	\$427,881.72	\$482,000.00	-\$54,118.28

*We received a very nice donation! Thank you*

*Eucharistic Adoration will take place at ~ 6:00 pm on all the Fridays of Advent. Come join us for a Meditative Hour with the Lord.*



## Scripture Readings for the Week

### 30<sup>th</sup> FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 2:1-5 / Romans 13:11-14 /  
Matthew 24:37-44

### 1<sup>st</sup> Advent Weekday

Isaiah 4:2-6 / Matthew 8:5-11

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent Weekday

Isaiah 11:1-10 / Lk 10:21-24

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Memorial: Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

Isaiah 25:6-10 / Matthew 15:29-37

### 4<sup>th</sup> Advent Weekday [St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor]

Isaiah 26:1-6 / Matthew 7:21, 24-27

### 5<sup>th</sup> Advent Weekday

Isaiah 29:17-24 / Matthew 9:27-31

### 6<sup>th</sup> Advent Weekday [Saint Nicholas, Bishop]

Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26 / Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5-8

## Mass Intentions



Saturday	5:30	Intentions of Patrick & Eleni Cooney and Baby Cooney RIP
Sunday	8:00	Emmanuel Annae RIP
	9:30	For the People of the Parish
	11:30	Intentions of Velma Richmond
Tuesday	8:30	Jewel DeBellis RIP
Wednesday	5:30	Intentions of Irvin Tigbao
Thursday	8:30	Intentions of Richard Biebel
Friday	5:30	Jessie Parrish Morland RIP
Saturday	8:30	Intentions of Theresa Thomas

## Parish Calendar through December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

- November 29-30** Preacher at Weekend Masses: Fr. Wilson  
Weekend 5:30 pm Saturday; 8:00/9:30/11:30 am Sunday
- November 30** *Communion & Liberation*  
Sunday 1:00 pm onwards, Magdalen & Norton Halls
- December 1** **St. Vincent de Paul Conference Meeting**  
Monday 7:00 pm, Norton Hall *All are welcome!*
- December 2** **Racial Equity Meeting: Planning for 2026**  
Tuesday 7:00 pm, Zoom. [tinyurl.com/SMM-RECzoom](https://tinyurl.com/SMM-RECzoom)
- December 3** **Meeting of SPRED Catechism**  
Wednesday 6:30 pm, Norton Hall
- December 4** **Christmas Mailing Party-Volunteers Needed!**  
Thursday 10:00 - 11:00 am, Conference Room
- December 4** **"Faith and Immigration Justice" Program**  
Thursday Course conclusion (on Zoom).
- December 5** **Discussion of the Sunday Gospel**  
Friday 9:15 - 10:15 am, Norton Hall
- December 5** **Eucharistic Adoration (Holy Hour)**  
Friday 6:00 pm, Church (*On Every Friday in Advent*)

## Holiday Outreach Giving Tree



Today, the First Sunday of Advent, we are collecting donations for *St. Mary's Center, Mercy Center Brown Bag Program for Seniors, Elizabeth House, Catholic Charities*, and our own parish conference of *St. Vincent de Paul*. The **Giving Tree** with ornaments for **\$30 Target gift cards** (best purchased online or in-store) and monetary requests is now in the church. **Your generous donations are very welcome! Both Gift Cards and monetary donations can be dropped off at the Parish rectory or in the collection basket up to Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.** On that morning (12/14), the Holiday Outreach team will be in Norton Hall from **9:00 to 11:00 am**. *Thank you!*

## Christmas Mass Schedule

- December 24<sup>th</sup>**, Christmas Eve  
5:00 pm — Family Mass  
9:30 pm — Christmas Concert  
10:00 pm — Mass in the Night
- December 25<sup>th</sup>**, Christmas Day  
9:00 am — Christmas Day Mass  
11:00 am — Christmas Day Mass

# Thank You for Your Generous Thanksgiving Donations!

Last weekend we debuted Fr. Nick's plan for incorporating Thanksgiving into our Sunday liturgies. Special thanks go to Mary Ernst for creating the space on the predella, to Norah Hippolyte for purchasing food so that everyone could bring a gift to the Altar, to John Ernst and John Stewart for manpower, to Vice-Principal Heather Skinner for donating much-needed boxes, and to Vincentians Elizabeth Jacob, Kristina Zoulas, Troy Kaji, Selvi McKay, Laura Morland, and Judy Vohs for organizing and distributing the donations to our Berkeley Neighbors in Need and to the Berkeley Food Pantry. **You parishioners were generous beyond measure!** (See John Ernst's photos below.)



# Farewell to a Pillar of St. Mary Magdalen Parish, Florence Wahl

She wanted no fanfare, and so she slipped away before we could tell her goodbye. After nearly a half-century holding up our parish, Florence Wahl has moved to Ohio to be with her only son. A founding member of the Sunday Diners, she was active in Peace & Justice. She brought life to our parish gatherings, from dancing with Father Roberto to providing a roast pig for every special occasion. She volunteered every Friday in the parish office and tended the priests' garden. She assisted with the Liturgical Environment and special liturgies, and welcomed all the children at the 9:30 am Mass. Thank you, Florence, for your gifts to our community. We will not see your like again.



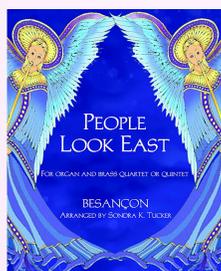
## Advent Hymnody

For me, music in the church year reaches a high point during Advent. Perhaps the hymns of Christmas and Easter are more joyful, but Advent hymns focus on hope. Sadly, since the season is brief, much of its music gets sung only fleetingly. Modern church composers musicians have tried to remedy this by using Advent melodies during other seasons (or for general use), but there is no other time when happy, hopeful words and music merge so successfully.



Consider “*O Come, O Come Emmanuel.*” While written in a minor key, the melody evokes dawn in the East; all the possibilities of a new day and by extension a new era. It expresses the yearning of a people for the fulfillment of long-held promises. The words and melody are ninth-century Gregorian Chant. The great nineteenth-century, English hymnist, James Mason Neil, translated it into the form we know today. While it may suffer from being the “default” Advent hymn, it is for good reason. The verses summarize the depth and meaning of Advent.

I believe I first heard the hymn, “*O Come Divine Messiah*” in an instrumental arrangement played by a marching band. It evokes for me a cheerful group of revelers, beer steins in hand, marching through the snow to a warm hearth and pleasant company. Its words convey a more serious meaning about the mission of the Messiah to break us from the hold of sin. It also speaks to the irony that God should come as a vulnerable baby. The hymn is French from the seventeenth century by the Abbé Simon-Joseph Pellegrin and was translated to English in 1872 by Sister Mary of Saint Phillip (Frances Mary Lescher), a Sister of Notre Dame of Namur in Liverpool.



The hymn, “*People Look East*” comes from another French carol (“*Besançon*”) originally with the words “*Shepherds, shake off your drowsy sleep.*” Eleanor Farjeon, (her best-known hymn is “*Morning Has Broken*”) wrote the lyrics we know today; it first appeared in the *Oxford Book of Carols* in 1928. I like that it calls to mind a time and landscape where there is not obvious reason for hope, but adjures the hearer to make one last attempt — which, of course pays off in the Messiah’s birth.

The clarion call of “*Comfort, Comfort, O My People*” is that the battle against sin and evil has been won, even if not apparent—thus rejoicing should begin. It is a harbinger of the Incarnation. Whether they are actually present or not, I can always hear trumpets blaring a descant over the choir announcing victory. The text is Isaiah 40:1-8, as written by Johann Olerarius in the 15th century, and the melody is “*Genevan 42*” from the *Genevan Psalter* of the sixteenth century. The Englishwoman Catherine Winkworth translated it in the 1850s.



Although it may not sound like it, “*My Soul in Stillness Waits*” is a contemporary hymn. The text is from Psalm 95 “*O Antiphons,*” but Marty Haugen (b. 1950) wrote the melody. I think the play between the F major and D minor keys is beautifully haunting. While the psalm predates Mary’s pregnancy by millennia, it conjures for me the expectant Blessed Mother contemplating the meaning of the role she was chosen to play in the Paschal Mystery.

In some ways Advent is a more exciting time than Christmas itself. It is filled with happy preparations for the feast; a good kind of stress that will be resolved in the Incarnation. Advent hymns reflect this tension in a wonderful way. I hope you’ll take some time to reflect on the backdrop of this time. These hymns provide the context for our preparation.

My Far East junket will be over on December 9<sup>th</sup>. I look forward to returning home with our Advent preparation for Christmas in full swing.

## Fr. Nick's Report from his Cruise in the Far East

As Fr. Nick stated in his bulletin column last week, he has found it hard to leave our parish this year, and so he seized the chance to use his accrued vacation time to serve as the ship's chaplain of Holland America's Westerdam. After landing in Singapore, he sailed to Bangkok, Thailand, and arrived today in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia. Before returning home, he will have visited Puerto Princesa and Manila in the Philippines, finally docking in Hong Kong before flying back to San Francisco. Below are a few photos he took in Singapore.



## The Kids' Bulletin

First Sunday of Advent  
November 30th, 2025

*Sort the letters to fill in the blanks at the bottom*



Romans 13:11-14

*In today's second reading  
Saint Paul tells the Romans to throw off the  
works of darkness and put on the*

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
1 2 3 4 5    6 7    8 9 10 11 12

## Fill in the Blanks: The Lord is Coming!



Matthew 24:37-44 As it was in the days of Noah,  
so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

In those days  \_\_\_\_\_ the flood,  
they were eating and drinking,  
marrying and giving in marriage,  
up to the day that Noah

\_\_\_\_\_ the ark.

They did not know until the flood came  
and \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_ them all away.

So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man.

Two   will be out in the field;  
one will be  \_\_\_\_\_, and one will be left.

Two women will be

\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_ at the mill;  
one will be taken, and one will be left.

Therefore, \_\_\_\_\_  awake!

For you do not know on which day  
your Lord will come.

\_\_\_\_\_ !

STAY ENTERED MEN BEFORE  
GRINDING TAKEN CARRIED



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WHEN IT'S TIME TO  
REMEMBER



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